

Organization Town of Champion

Board Town Board

Date and Time Monday, February 6 2012 at 7:00 PM

Place Town of Champion Offices Board Room (rear of building) 10 N Broad St, West Carthage NY

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

The Town of Champion Town Board met in regular monthly session on Monday, February 6, 2012 at the Town Municipal Building, 10 North Broad Street, West Carthage. Present were Supervisor Buckley, Councilmen Stewart, Watkins (7:10), Buzzell, and Ferguson, Highway Superintendent Sech and Attorney Farley.

Supervisor Buckley called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and opened the public forum. Suzanne Wiley, Deputy Historian, discussed an 1804 account book kept by Dr. Lewis and a Lewis family tree. Mrs. Wiley proposed reprinting the autobiography of Abel Lewis which was serialized by the Watertown Daily Times in 1929.

Kyle Overton, representing the CVFD, requested that the Board consider whether it would support a Champion Fire District and meet with the Department’s legal counsel. The fire department proposed a district that would include all areas encompassed by the Champion Fire Protection service area and stated that they would directly contract with the Villages of West Carthage and Copenhagen to provide coverage to specific areas. Supervisor Buckley questioned the motivation for fire district formation. L. Waite stated that the Town Board is not fire oriented while fire commissioners are required to attend training. Supervisor Buckley advised the department that the Board would consider the request and invited them to attend the March meeting.

Monthly Reports

- Highway Superintendent – Mr. Sech reported that he has received early estimates for reconstructing the Whitaker Road. Mr. Sech submitted a prioritized Five-Year Plan and an updated inventory. Mr. Watkins suggested a standard set aside during the budget process to finance major equipment replacement.
- Assessor – Mr. Vargulick reported that new construction has continued throughout the winter and will add to the 2013 roll.
- Planning – Mr. LaBarge reported that the Planning Board is reviewing a site plan from Caskinette’s Lofink.
- Historian – Mrs. Thornton reported that she has responded to a number of inquiries and research requests.
- Circuit Rider – Ms. Amyot shared a copy of the THC issue paper concerning property taxes in the Tug Hill Region.

Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to approve the minutes of January 2 and January 23, 2012 as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to pay the following bills as presented:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| General #11-59..... | \$242,637.62 |
| Highway #7-26..... | \$34,469.48 |
| RACOG #1-2..... | \$322.63 |
| Con WD#1 O&M #5-11..... | \$9,899.22 |
| WD#4 O&M #4-6..... | \$24,893.29 |
| WD#5 O&M #4-6..... | \$4,986.70 |
| WD#5 Capital #1..... | \$146.36 |
| SD#1 O&M #2..... | \$54,921.25 |
| SD#2 O&M #2-5..... | \$298.96 |

Ayes -5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Supervisor’s monthly report was read and discussed. Motion by Mr. Buzzell, seconded by Mr. Watkins to accept the report as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing a particular employee. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Executive session began at 8:02pm.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to resume open session. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried. Open session resumed at 9:06pm.

The Board discussed the proposal from S. Wiley to publish the autobiography of Abel Lewis. Attorney Farley advised that the Town needs to get permission, in writing, to reprint the serial from the Watertown Daily Times and a contract would need to be executed between the Town and Mrs. Wiley if the Board chooses to approve the project. Supervisor Buckley suggested publishing a limited number of copies to distribute to local schools, libraries, senior centers and historical venues. Mr. Ferguson discussed putting the book online to provide access to all interested persons. Motion by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Stewart to authorize an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the publication of the autobiography of Abel Potter Lewis pending permission from the Watertown Daily Times and execution of a contract for funding. The published books shall be delivered directly to the Town of Champion; Attention: Lynn Thornton. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Board discussed an amendment to the Town water laws to provide for connection regulations and penalties

for intentional disruption of water service. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Buzzell to direct the Town Attorney to prepare local laws to amend the Town water laws to provide for connection regulations and penalties for intentional disruption of water service. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Board considered a letter from North Country Affordable Housing, Inc. requesting support of their community housing programs. Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to forward a letter of support to North Country Affordable Housing, Inc. for their funding application. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Ferguson to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:17pm.

Christina Vargulick
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Town Clerk